MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No.

(c) Research on standardisation of agro-techniques including pest and desease control in mango is being conducted at two national Institutes namely, viz Central Institute of Horticulture for Northern Plains, Lucknow; and Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore and at 7 centres under All India Coordinated project at Sabour (Bihar), Vengurla (Maharashtra), Rewa (M.P), Sangareddy (A.P.), Pantnagar (U.P.), Malda (W.B.), and Paria (Gujarat). The technology thus developed helps farmers in increasing the production and export

(d) Two Central Sector Schemes namely "Supply of Amrapali and Alphonso mango grafts", and "Rejuvenation of old orchards" are in operation in different states including Maharashtra to boost mango production in the country

Destruction of Mango Crops

1142. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 50 per cent of mango crops are destroyed at the time of blossoming;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any possibility of air spray by helicopters;

(d) whether Government propose to increase the percentage of mango crops;

(e) whether Government propose to relay any educative advertisements on mango crop on TV and Akashvani in the mango crop season; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons herefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b) Exact percentage of mango crops destroyed at the time of blossoming is not known However, considerable damage is caused mainly due to attack of powdery mildew mango hopper, etc, at the time of blossoming

(c) A survey relating to aerial spray on mango on Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh has been completed by the Vayudoot

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) At present Government of India do not have any proposal to sponsor any educative advertisements on TV and Akashvani in the mango crop season because of extension agencies functioning in all the States.

धान की खेती में अधिक पैदावार देने वाली किस्मों का योगदान

1143. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह: क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश में इस मौसम के दौरान धान की खेती में प्रयुक्त अधिक पैदावार देने वाली बीजों की किस्मों का क्या योगदान रहा है; और

(ख) क्या सरकार इसके लिए किसानों को कोई प्रोत्साहन/रियायत दे रही है अथवा देने का विचार रखती है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जयन्तीलाल वीरचन्दभाई शाह): (क) खरीफ धान क्षेत्र के 39 मिलियन हैक्टेयर मे से लगभग 60 प्रतिशत से भी अधिक क्षेत्र मे अधिक उपज देने वाले किस्मों के बीजों की खेती की जाती है।

(ख) धान की अधिक उपज देने वाली किस्मों की खेती को लोकप्रिय बनाने के लिए पहले जारी की गई और हाल ही में जारी की गई स्थानीय